CANADIANS DON'T TRUST FEDS: REPORT, PG5

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Entertainment

Beyoncé top nominee at Grammy awards

pg 16

The zipline connects a tower by the Vancouver Law Courts to one on the east side of the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Free zipline to zoom across celebration site

OLYMPICS Towers have gone up at two Robson Square locations where a zipline will allow people to zoom across the Olympic celebration site.

The 170-metre zipline, operated by Whistler's Ziptrek Ecotours, is free and runs from Feb. 12 to 28, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The Robson Square site, which is home to the B.C. International Media Centre and the 2010 Commerce Centre, also has free ice skating at the GE Plaza. **METRO VANCOUVER**

Police set Olympic bait

Thieves won't spoil Games celebration, says crime team

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

STIG NIELSEN
for Metro Vancouver

With 250,000 locals and visitors expected to leave their cars behind and take transit during the Games, police are taking steps to make sure auto theft doesn't become an Olympic event.

Bait cars are being placed at 22 park-and-ride lots, five VANOC hubs and various training centres. Thieves will be caught red handed if they steal Olympic mittens left behind in a parked car or go for any of the electronics police plan to place on the seats.

"We are not going to sit back and allow you (criminals) to detract from people's overall enjoyment of the Olympics," said Sgt. Gord Elias of the Integrated Municipal Provincial Auto Crime Team (IMPACT).

The electronic items, like GPS systems, cameras and laptops, will all be marked with tiny electronic beacons — MicroDots — that allow police to link the item with the break-in and serve as indisputable evidence in court.

"When our guests return home, we want them to leave with nothing but fond memories," said B.C. Solicitor General Kash Heed.

In addition to high-tech means, police will also have undercover surveillance teams at parking areas identified as "high risk," while helicopters and K9 units will be ready to assist in arrests.

"In simple terms, where the cars are, IMPACT will be," said Heed. He added, "you can't outrun a German Shepherd."

Auto theft

- The use of bait cars fitted with video equipment and GPS trackers is directly responsible for a 55 per cent reduction in auto theft since 2003, B.C. Solicitor General Kash Heed said.

Olympics Aboriginal showcase

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. Nations representatives and staff from the Pan Pacific hotel carry a 40-foot Tsimshian Canoe up the escalator of the hotel yesterday. The canoe is part of a 16-day showcase of aboriginal art and performances that will be free to visit during the 2010 Winter Olympics and begins Feb. 12.

Attitude to B.C. bud to stay laissez faire: VPD

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

SWEET MARY JANE That sweet scent in the air during next month's Olympic Games might be the smell of success. Then again, it could just be the weed.

It will be far from business as usual for much of Vancouver during the Olympics, but marijuana advocates and police say our city's laissez faire attitude toward the infamous B.C. bud won't change.

"Our officers show an exceptional amount of discretion with respect to people smoking marijuana and that will continue," said Vancouver police Const. Lindsey Houghton.

That's not to say police will completely turn a blind eye.

"There are people who are coming to visit that live in countries where it may certainly not be against the law so I don't expect people will come here seeking to openly contravene our drug laws but you know, I'm sure there will be people who do it and I'm sure our officers will do their best to remind them that that's against the law," Houghton said.

Salvador Daswani, co-owner of Vansterdam clothing in Vancouver, said he has sold about 70 "Vansterdam 2010" T-shirts featuring a man running with a lit marijuana cigarette, blowing smoke in the shape of five rings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

- Today — Sisters stick together on ski trails, page 8

On the web

Visit metronews.ca for news updates

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SCANLIFE

Local

Opium found in tombstone

Police in Coquitlam and North Vancouver have arrested four people after customs officers at YVR found nearly 57 kilograms of opium stuffed inside a tombstone that had been shipped from Iran. Police say it was the biggest opium seizure ever made in the province. METRO VANCOUVER

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RCMP probing housing scam that affected athlete's family

GREG DOWNS
for Metro Vancouver

WHISTLER RCMP yesterday confirmed that an investigation is underway into a housing scam in Whistler that victimized the parents of U.S. Olympic bobsledder Steve Mesler.

Ben Mesler said he's doing his best to shield his son from the scam that cost them $8,000 after they paid to rent a Whistler duplex that wasn't available.

"He's got more important things to worry about than mom and dad," he said. "We're going to keep him informed but we will not be making any expectations in terms of helping us out."

Judy Hoy, mother of Canadian snowboarder Drew Neilson, said she's thankful to be part of a program that finds shelter and pays for two family members of each of Canada's athletes to be put up during the Olympics.

"We're not going to be scammed by anyone at the last minute trying to get last minute accommodations because we're all looked after ... he can focus on his competition and doesn't have to worry about whether we're going to make it or not," said Hoy of the Petro-Canada Canadian Athlete Family Program.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs It's Called Football welcomes ESPN's Ives Galarcep to chat MLS CBA and Toronto FC trade rumours, and SpinDoctor warns Tory strategists that digital democracy is here to stay.

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Centres closing to public for Games

KRISTA THOMPSON
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VANCOUVER 2010 Games

While Vancouverites are taking a mandatory hiatus from many of their recreation centres during the Olympics, they may take pride in the knowledge that those facilities are being used by the world's best athletes.

Access to nearly two-dozen community centres and parks will be limited or closed leading up to and during the Games, in some cases because of their proximity to venues.

Britannia, Killarney and Trout Lake ice rinks are already closed to let Olympic athletes practice.

Aaron Jasper, chair of the Park Board, said residents should see the temporary changes as an opportunity, not an inconvenience. "We have a lot to be proud of as a city ... and not often do we get to revel in that and share who we are," Jasper said.

"So parking is a bit of a challenge and for a few weeks access to the rink is not there. But (you get to) mingle with people from around the world and take advantage of all the public events and free venues."

Communities around the province are providing Olympic and Paralympic teams with training venues for the 2010 Games.

Japan's speedskating team arrived in Abbotsford yesterday to start its training camp, and the public is invited to watch the team skate until Feb. 3.

The Russian skating team will be offering a training clinic for Abbotsford's skating club and Kelowna's midget girls' hockey team gets to play against the Swedish Olympic women's team.

Mary McNeil, minister of state for the Olympics, said this is a great chance for British Columbians to get "up close and personal with the best athletes in the world."

More online

- For more information on the impact of the Games on local community centres visit vancouver.ca/parks.

Georgia Street **Gallery dresses for modesty**

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A Modest Veil, by artist Michael Lin, covers the Vancouver Art Gallery's Georgia Street façade. The exhibition is a partnership between the gallery and Vancouver's Olympic public art program.

Officer in mistaken identity case reassigned: VPD

ARREST One of two officers who arrested a Vancouver man in a case of mistaken identity has been reassigned to administrative duties pending the outcome of an internal investigation, police said yesterday.

Yao Wei Wu was injured on Jan. 12, when police knocked on the wrong door in response to a domestic assault call.

"The VPD has assigned a team of senior officers to this investigation and has utilized the services of a Cantonese speaking sergeant to liaise with the Wu family," said Insp. Mario Giardini. METRO VANCOUVER

Yao Wei Wu

News in brief

SKIING Whistler Blackcomb has added more parking near the hills to give day skiers more time to hit the slopes before the Games start on Feb. 12. Skiers can reserve the spaces — which cost $20 for 12 hours — at advancednet.ca. Parking is unavailable from Feb. 11 to 28.

SEX ASSAULT Vancouver police have received more than 30,000 visits to its Project Scourge website since Monday morning when police released sketches of a man suspected of sexually assaulting children for two decades.

POT Richmond RCMP seized 1,500 marijuana plants when they raided a pair of warehouses on Jan. 20 on Bridgeport Road. They also seized two kilograms of methamphetamine. Ten legitimate businesses also operated out of the warehouses.

CHURCHES The Anglican Church of Canada may close 14 of its 59 churches on Vancouver Island and the southern Gulf Islands because of faltering attendance rates, CBC News Online reports. Churches need at least 150 members to afford to keep active.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

An Olympic guide to minding Ps and Qs

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

"Remember that 'Protocol Smile.' It ought to get larger the worse things get from your perspective."
A guide for hosts at the Olympics

ETIQUETTE Sit tall, smile gently and keep the shoeshine kit and clothes brush at the ready, warns a protocol guide for city hosts who will be welcoming visiting dignitaries during the 2010 Games.

The guide, which was posted online by the city yesterday, provides pointers on everything from how to dress to how to shake hands. It also tells protocol staff how to negotiate embarrassing situations like informing someone that their fly is open.

Excerpts include:

- "Remember that 'Protocol Smile.' It ought to get larger the worse things get from your perspective. Let them think you are in complete control."
- "Smile 'gently' and with sincerity. Be careful not to overdo it. False smiles can look artificial, and never-ending smiles may invite suspicion."
- "Staring can be perceived as threatening. Try to shift your focus to other parts of the face from time to time."
- "A neat appearance isn't enough; you must be exemplary all the time. Others will infer qualities of your commander (city) from your appearance and behaviour."
- "Whether speaking with one person or a group, it is rude to look around as if searching for someone 'more important' with whom to speak."

Lesli Boldt, the city's Olympic spokeswoman, said the manual was produced to aid a few dozen staff members who have been seconded to the city's protocol team from other departments. The manual was produced in-house and the city hopes to market it, to future Olympic hosts like London and Sochi.

Chinatown building limit raised

DEVELOPMENT Vancouver is raising the height of Chinatown's buildings to increase density and revitalize the economy in the historic neighbourhood.

In a special council meeting yesterday, councillors voted to increase the height of buildings in the neighbourhood to a maximum of 37 metres, up from 27 metres.

A limited number of buildings will be allowed to build to 45 metres, or roughly 12 to 15 storeys.

In a release, Mayor Gregor Robertson said increasing building heights would allow families to move into the neighbourhood and attract new customers for Chinatown businesses.

Curling stars to greet fans at the Bay

Curling fans will have the chance to meet Canadian superstars Cheryl Bernard and Kevin Martin at the Bay in Vancouver tomorrow evening. The first 200 customers to buy a Signature Series curling product at the store's Olympic Superstore can get said item signed by Bernard and Kevin. METRO VANCOUVER

Word on the street: What do you think of the new trash cans in Vancouver?

Pantea Hamvehi
25, Kelowna

A: "I think they are a lot better than the old ones. They are a lot less intrusive, because they just blend in with the city. There will be a lot less junk in the streets."

Nicole Walker
23, Vancouver

A: "They will command people's attention because of their colour. They're stylish. I think they will probably be emptied more often instead of them overflowing because people can see the garbage in them."

Lev Oh
24, Vancouver

A: "I think it's good for the city. Many people have garbage, but some just throw it out (on the streets). So it's good to have some garbage spots where we can throw out garbage easily."

Be prepared to TravelSmart with transit during the 2010 Winter Games.
Dress warmly.
Check travel alerts and up-to-date schedules at TravelSmart2010.ca.
Give yourself plenty of time.
Be prepared to stand if seats are full.
Buy FareSaver tickets or 6-week Games pass in advance.
Wear comfy shoes for waiting in line and walking to venues.

A little preparation goes a long way towards having fun at the Games. Avoid peak travel times – plan to be at work by 7am and start your commute home at 2pm or if you want to stay downtown to enjoy the celebrations, plan to leave after 7pm and avoid travelling right after events finish. Be sure to give yourself extra travel time and be prepared for crowds wherever you're going during Games-time. Remember to dress appropriately for outdoor conditions. Bring some patience, check for travel alerts and use the trip planner before you leave at **TravelSmart2010.ca.**

TRANSLINK

STIG NIELSEN/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

About 400 of these new trash cans — with clear plastic bags so security officers can see their contents — are replacing regular trash bins in the city.

TransLink to expand hours of phone line

OLYMPICS TransLink is making it easier for commuters to learn about re-routes, schedule changes and trip planning during the Games by extending the hours of its customer information line and adding staff to answer the phones.

Employees will answer the phones 20 hours a day from 5:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. during the month of February, said TransLink spokesperson Drew Snider.

Number

- TransLink's customer information line is 604-953-3333.

"People are going to have a lot of questions about how to get around," he said, adding that newcomers who are unfamiliar with our transit services will also stand to gain from extra staff and phone lines.

"There are other transport-related services that we don't handle and we'll have contact information (for those services to) ... steer (people) in the right direction."

They include VANOC's Olympic Bus Network, Greyhound buses and B.C. Ferries.

"We're expecting to get up to one million trips a day," Snider said. "Ordinarily, we (see) around 750,000 to 800,000."

He said extra buses and SkyTrains will be running to accommodate that expected 30 per cent increase in ridership.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

TORCH RELAY Coca-Cola has announced the names of the Lower Mainland residents chosen to fill 16 Olympic torchbearer spots for the relay across B.C. The runners, including a cancer survivor, were chosen because they have proven their commitment to live a more active or environmentally friendly life.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Book sheds light on John Paul II's life
Pope John Paul II whipped himself with a belt and slept on the floor as acts of penitence and to bring him closer to Christian perfection, according to a new book, Why He's a Saint, by the Polish prelate spearheading his sainthood case. The book includes previously unpublished speeches and documents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada/World

Canadians don't trust feds: Report

Deep divide between citizens, government

A new study, on the heels of a public clamour over the suspended winter parliamentary session, claims Canadians are jaundiced about the state of democracy here.

The report, to be released today by the Institute of Wellbeing, says Canada is experiencing "a huge democratic deficit, with trust in Canadian government and public institutions on a steep decline."

"The disconnect between Canadians and those who govern on their behalf is deep, wide, and growing" said Lynne Slotek of the institute. "At a time when people are demanding greater accountability and transparency, they see their government institutions becoming more remote and opaque."

The report on "democratic engagement" comes coincidentally amid protests over Prime Minister Stephen Harper's New Year's decision to halt the last parliamentary session and reconvene only in March. A review of 10 years of data, it does not take into account the reaction to the government's move.

National opinion surveys in recent weeks suggest that Canadians, rather than being disengaged or apathetic, have reacted strongly to Harper's decision to prorogue. It has cost the federal Conservatives dearly, with party support ratings dropping to an almost statistical tie with their main opponents, the Liberals.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Turnout

- The report says although voter turnout has declined from a high of 69.6 per cent in 1993 to the historic low of about 59 per cent in 2008, it does not mean Canadians are uninterested in politics.

Fire and brimstone become a common refrain in Haiti

Haiti Crisis

Pat Robertson might have plenty of company in Haiti where the streets echo with warnings of fire, brimstone and the wrath of God.

The U.S. televangelist raised an international ruckus with his argument that Haitians' past sins had earned them a punishment from God.

Critics have assailed his claims as "cruel" and "ignorant," but the big irony of the furore is that similar musings are a daily occurrence in Haiti.

In this deeply religious, mostly Roman Catholic country, churches are often crowded with people standing on their front steps to get a glimpse inside.

These days, preachers are wandering through public squares, carrying Bibles and delivering sermons to the homeless.

Mio Janvier is among the estimated one million who became homeless after the Jan. 12 earthquake.

She said she hasn't been going to church; the preachers are coming to her.

"They just tell us, 'Jesus is coming back.'"

Nickerson Gay said they're being told they might wind up suffering the same calamitous fate periodically visited upon the infamous sinners of the Old Testament.

"They've been talking a lot about that," said Gay. "They're talking about Sodom and Gomorrah.

"They're saying God hit Haiti because there's a lot of evil and sin going on in the country, which is why God hit us this way."

The argument echoes the one made by Robertson, who cited a 19th-century pagan pact for having caused the country's misfortune. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHLPA steps up

- The NHL Players' Association announced yesterday that it has launched an online auction of memorabilia to raise funds for Haiti.

Kelowna **Olympic medallist carries torch**

GARY KNIGHT/THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE DAILY COURIER

Former Olympic silver medallist in rowing Scott Frandsen of Kelowna, B.C., is all smiles after lighting the cauldron during Olympic torch relay ceremonies at Kelowna's City Park on Monday evening, which 15,000 people attended. The Olympic Games are slated to begin on Feb. 12 in Vancouver.

Peace with Taliban part of the plan

AFGHANISTAN How can the hard war in Afghanistan finally be won? That is the perplexing question facing Afghan leaders and 60 foreign ministers including Canada's Lawrence Cannon when they meet at a London conference tomorrow.

The conference will see the unveiling of an ambitious plan to sap the Taliban insurgency by convincing some of its lower- and mid-level fighters to lay down their weapons in exchange for money, job training and other financial incentives.

It is not clear if the plan to persuade Taliban fighters who are not linked to al-Qaida to give up their weapons and join the political process — a centrepiece of the conference agenda — will be successful. Taliban leaders say the plan is doomed.

Hamid Karzai's government has tried several times to entice the Taliban leadership to the peace table — initiatives that had met with a cool reception from Washington and Ottawa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

HEALTH The Tories' G8 commitment to maternal and child health in poor countries could cost up to $2 billion, says the UN. THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metronews.ca

ScanLife

Being named Olympic flag-bearer can sometimes be a difficult honour for harried athletes to accept. Scan this code for the story.

Politician's 'pants' rap becomes Internet hit

POLITICS A New Brunswick politician has become a minor Internet sensation after trying to inject humour into the provincial legislature.

Last Friday, Liberal T.J. Burke said Conservative party Leader David Alward's criticism of the government's plan to sell NB Power assets to Hydro Quebec left the Tory leader with his "pants down." At that point, Burke started rapping, "Pants on the ground, pants on the ground, looking like a fool with his pants on the ground" — a ditty made popular by a contestant on American Idol.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Watch a video of Burke's Pants on the Ground rap at: metronews.ca/canada

News in brief

SRI LANKA Early returns showed Sri Lanka's incumbent president ahead of his estranged former army chief in their bitter race to win the first presidential election after a quarter-century war against Tamil Tiger rebels. A military spokesman said troops surrounded a central Colombo hotel where challenger Sarath Fonseka was staying after about 400 people gathered in support of the general.

HONG KONG Five local opposition legislators resigned yesterday to pressure China for direct elections, in what some consider a desperate bid to revive the campaign for democracy in the semiautonomous former British colony. In their latest campaign, two opposition parties hope to pressure China by having the five legislators resign, forcing a special election that would pit pro-democracy and pro-China candidates against one another.

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Comment

Apple continues to defy gravity

TheWestView

The question on the collective mind of the media this morning: Can Steve Jobs do it again?

For his first trick, Apple's genius revolutionized the computer by inventing the Mac.

Next, he revolutionized the mobile music universe with the iPod.

Next up, he transformed the mobile phone universe with the iPhone.

This morning, he's poised to unveil Apple's entry in the tablet derby with the iTablet or the iSlate, which will be approximately the same size as those e-reader devices already on the market, such as the Kindle or the Sony e-reader.

And so, naturally, people are asking: Can he do it again?

I hope so. And here's why.

We've been waiting a long time for the Device That Can Do Everything. If Jobs gets it right, the iThing will be that device.

For years, computers have been getting smaller and more mobile until now, where there's a sweet spot between the best smartphone and the lightest, most lavish laptop.

You can do just about anything on a laptop, but it's just a little too clumsy to fit into your modern 21st-century lifestyle. And you can do just about anything on your iPhone. But you have to squint to do it.

The tablet device has all the potential in the world to deliver all the world: Movies, music, games, TV, and the office, as well as The Office. At the same time, it can be an ideal platform for books, magazines, and this newspaper, among others.

In fact, Jobs could save the media. So far, he has defied gravity and convinced millions of people to continue to actually buy music via iTunes, and publishers hope beyond hope he can do the same thing for all content. Because if you build something that people really want, they'll pay for it.

And if Jobs has a secret, he builds things that people want. I was a BlackBerry early adopter and a diehard loyalist — until I discovered the iPhone and all the things it could do. Now? BlackBerry, SchmackBerry.

If newspapers, magazines and books are as easy to buy, navigate, and enjoy on the iThing ("enjoy" being the key word), then maybe we're on the threshold of a media miracle.

There is every indication Jobs knows what's at stake this morning. He has reportedly said this is the most important thing he has ever done. And there are thousands of authors, editors, publishers, producers and presidents who are praying he is right. Again.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Are you satisfied with Canada's level of aid for Haiti in its time of need?

Susan Tabarsi
Vancouver

A: If (Canada) can do more, it should do more, definitely. It affected the whole international community.

Chris Chung
Vancouver

A: Other than the money issue I think we should send more people and volunteers.

Tara Callan
Vancouver

A: There are a lot of different things going on — there were the relief concerts, there is a huge campaign with the Red Cross. I think Canadians are doing their part and trying their best to help out.

Josh Walsh
Toronto

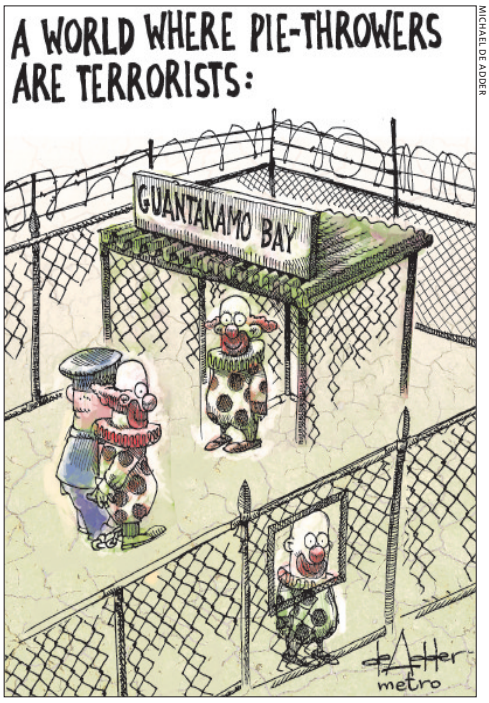
A: Yes, I'm really surprised ... It increases people's incentives to donate when the Canadian government decides to match people's donations. Five dollars is $10, and so on ...

Sophie Moggridge
Ottawa

A: No, I don't think so. So much of it goes to administration costs, so everyone in Canada is donating all this money for relief, but a large percentage of it is not even making it to Haiti. That's really frustrating.

Jake Sabourin
Edmonton

A: Just around the city I see people rallying to get all sorts of funds together with parties and fundraisers. I think everyone is really concerned and everyone that can help out these days is doing their best to make that happen.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Canwest auction finds support
The committee representing secured lenders of Canwest Global Communications says there's sufficient committed support to ensure a court-supervised auction of the company's newspapers and online businesses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Air New Zealand **Skycouches**

AIR NEW ZEALAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This file photo released by Air New Zealand shows the airline's new Skycouch option. Air New Zealand said yesterday it will set a new benchmark for longhaul flights by offering beds in economy class, but they come with a catch, passengers need to buy three seats to enjoy lie-down travel.

In **brief**

PRINTING World Color Press Inc., the Montreal-based printing giant formerly known as Quebecor World, has agreed to be taken over by Quad/Graphics Inc. in order to create a combined company with 30,000 employees. Quad/Graphics Inc. is currently the largest privately held printer in the United States but plans to go public in connection with the World Color takeover. World Color Press is the publicly traded company that was formed after the former Quebecor printing business was restructured under court protection from its creditors. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadians ignoring TV ads: Report

In a world filled with technological distractions, television remains a universal medium but almost no-one is watching the ads, a report by advertising agency Bensimon Byrne warns.

A growing number of Canadians are surfing the web or sending text messages on their cellphones while watching television, the agency said in its quarterly Consumerology report.

As well, many more households own personal video recorders and are using them to skip the ads, according to the report made public at the Advertising Week 2010 event in Toronto.

As a result, only one in five Canadians is giving television commercials their full attention.

"The overall learning from this study is that technology is fragmenting our attention spans dramatically," said Jack Bensimon, president of Bensimon Byrne.

"Advertisers must accept they no longer have a captive audience. Whatever your product, service or message, it needs to be of high interest."

The number of households with PVRs has risen to 29 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tech bits

- Half of Canadians under 34 spend two hours a day online. But 83 per cent of respondents of all ages consider the Internet "essential" to their daily lives.

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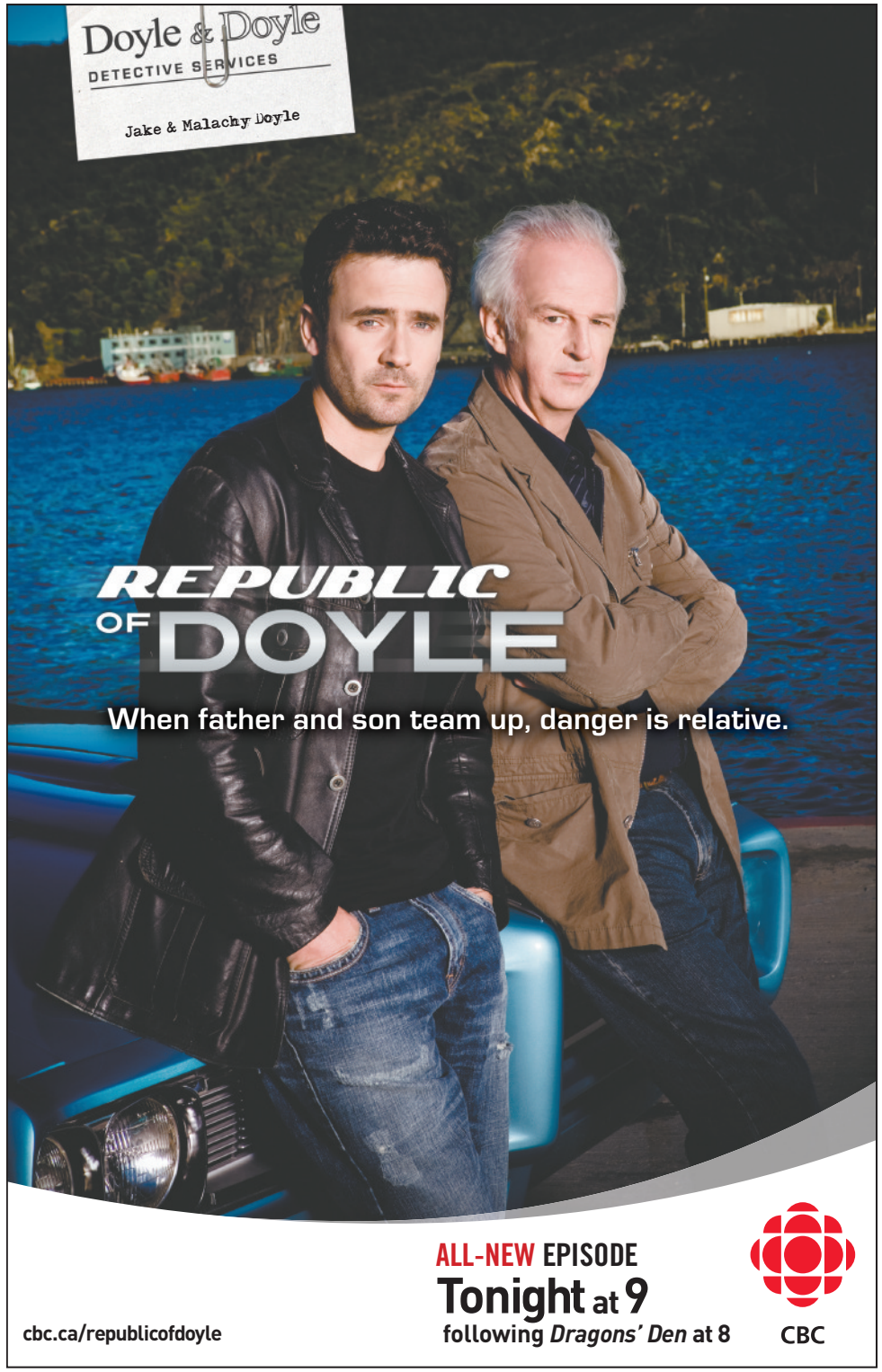
Despite better-than-expected U.S. numbers, jittery investors keep TSX flat. Scan this code for the story.



Vonn, Miller headline U.S. ski team

Lindsey Vonn and Bode Miller lead a list of U.S. skiers earning spots for the Vancouver Games. Vonn is rolling into Vancouver having won five straight World Cup downhill events this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Canada's oldest 2010 Olympian finds humour in her position

EXPERIENCE Curler Carolyn Darbyshire isn't sure she likes the distinction she's earned from her years of experience as she heads to the Vancouver Olympics.

Carolyn Darbyshire

But the 46-year-old, who plays second on Cheryl Bernard's team, does see the humour in the fact she will be the oldest Canadian competitor — and one of the oldest overall — at these Winter Games.

"I chuckled," she said following a practice yesterday at the Calgary Curling Club. "It's not something I think about. I just go on day by day and I don't think of those things — just like if I thought of everything I have to do in a day.

"I would probably panic. It's a lot of perspective."

It's not that much of a surprise that a curler would hold that status due largely to the fact that athletes can play the game well into their late 40s and be competitive.

Darbyshire is by no means the oldest Canadian athlete to compete at the Olympics, and isn't even the oldest in her sport. In 2006 Russ Howard turned 50 during the Turin Games and also became the oldest Canadian to win an Olympic gold medal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sisters share road to Games

Just last season, Chandra Crawford's dream of cross-country skiing before family and fans at the Vancouver Olympics was disintegrating amidst misfortune and painful injuries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sisters Rosanna, left, and Chandra Crawford will be competing in the Winter Games.

Now, the Olympic gold medallist has secured a spot on the Canadian team and is on the comeback trail alongside biathlete sister Rosanna Crawford — and together they've adopted the title of "super lucky awesome sisters."

"Super lucky" seems to be overstating the case given recent setbacks, but it correctly reflects the outlook of the boisterous, glass-half-full Crawford clan of Canmore, Alta.

By 2008, Chandra, 27, had gone from Olympic sprint gold medallist in Turin and a World Cup leader, to a couch rider with intense shooting pains firing up her legs.

Adding to the family's worries, Rosanna, 21, developed a heart condition known as Atrial Tachycardia, where the heart races to dangerous levels. She says a doctor warned her she might have a heart attack were it not for her extreme fitness levels.

"We both had moments when we thought being together at the Olympics was never going to happen," Rosanna said from a recent competition site at Antholz, Italy, recalling a time when her heart raced to 250 beats as she attempted to train.

Both had to go under the surgeon's knife, with Chandra's shins being cut open in 2008 to deal with compartment syndrome, and Rosanna heading to a heart surgeon in December 2008. The surgeon corrected a problem with a nerve that was the root cause of the biathlete's condition.

The sisters are preparing together for the run-up to the Games at a final training camp on Vancouver Island's Mount Washington, and the final push is on to reach for an upset.

"Everything is going great with my erstwhile injuries," writes Chandra in an email message. "Everything is working.

"I'm looking forward to walking in the opening ceremonies. I'm looking forward to my sister and I racing in stadiums that are separated by a mere few hundreds metres of ski trail." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Brian B	AB, CA	738	310	431	741
2. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	745	310	425	735
3. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	740	293	437	730
4. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	750	315	413	728
5. Cole Warren	NS, CA	729	267	458	725
6. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	705	295	428	723
6. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	739	288	435	723
8. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	702	286	435	721
9. Shane Gladue	AB, CA	734	261	454	715
10. Feroz Mir	ON, CA	730	281	431	712
11. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	717	299	410	709
12. Sarah Jackson	ON, CA	706	277	431	708
13. Stephen Mcpherson	NS, CA	748	260	447	707
14. Regan Lee	BC, CA	748	263	443	706
15. Tom Collier	NS, CA	752	325	379	704

* Results exclude Quebec

markerzone.com metro

Cross-country team loaded with potential

TALENT The official target for Canadian cross-country skiers at the Vancouver Olympics is one medal of any hue, but the team has enough depth to surprise before cheering fans on home snow.

Outside observers like Swiss coach Trond Nystad say the Canadians may break through to the podium in several of the 12 events.

"I am convinced that the Canadian men and women will perform at the Olympics," says Nystad, who has followed the steady improvement of the Canadians. "The talent is there."

Nystad points out that the North Americans will finally enjoy a hometown advantage, as opposed to living out of a suitcase on the European tour where they are unknown and often ignored.

In addition, each country is only allowed four entrants in the Olympic races, a rule that will help teams with less depth.

Cross Country Canada touts the men's team, which includes team leader Devon Kershaw and the rising star Alex Harvey — easily spotted by his shining cubic earrings — as a rising force since the 2006 Turin Games.

In January, both Kershaw and 21-year-old Harvey managed impressive top-10 finishes in the gruelling eight-race Tour de Ski.

Meanwhile, Ivan Babikov, a Russian who immigrated to Canada, gained an international reputation as one of the circuit's most masochistic hill climbers as he managed the fourth-best time in the final race, a three-kilometre climb up Italy's Mount Cermes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Nestor advances at Australian Open
Canadian Daniel Nestor and Serbian partner Nenad Zimonjic advanced to the semifinals at the Australian Open with a victory over Arnaud Clement and Jonathan Erlich. THE CANADIAN PRESS

9

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

No need for big deal

As trade deadline nears, Canucks have no major holes

TheHockeyNews

Rory Boylen
rboylen@thehockeynews.com

Finally. Fifty-two games into the season and the Vancouver Canucks are getting the consistent, positive results we all expected from them back in October.

With this cast they never should have been on the playoff periphery, but instead belong near the top.

Now the question turns towards the trade deadline and whether or not this team should get involved. Without any cap space to manoeuvre with, Vancouver won't so much be looking at big splashes as opposed to little dips into the market.

Getting the offence-first Pavol Demitra back from injury will start paying off as he gets his legs under him, so the team has already made one addition that cost nothing.

Without a doubt, the Canucks could use a better, more stereotypical third-line centre than Kyle Wellwood. His points are too few and far between and he doesn't have the aggressive corner game to compensate for his offensive deficiencies. Looking around the league, Carolina's 33-year-old, UFA-to-be Matt Cullen or Florida's underrated Dominic Moore would both be worth looking into if the price is right.

The only other area I'd consider tampering with is the blueline, but the current group allows the seventh-fewest amount of shots against per game. Not bad, especially when you have Roberto Luongo backing it up.

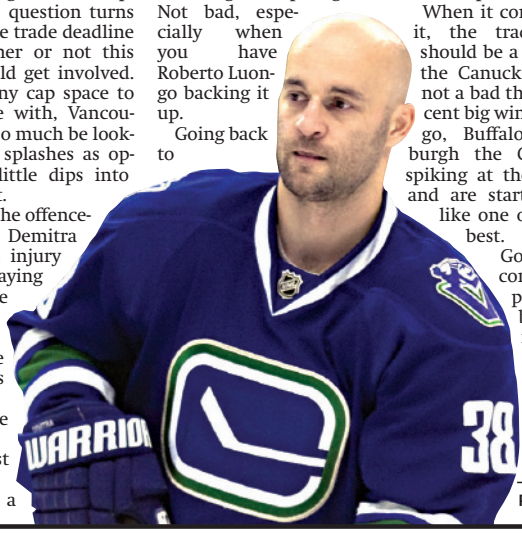
Going back to Carolina, Joe Corvo or Aaron Ward would be interesting pieces who'd bring different styles, but their contracts ($2.625 million and $2.5 million) don't fit into Vancouver's makeup. Perhaps the affordable $1.375 million cap hit Dallas' Karlis Skrastins brings would fit into the mold.

The Hockey News thn.com

But, really, the Canucks are seven D-men deep when fully healthy and the whole group is doing a fine job, so it would be hard to move any kind of asset for a minor part.

When it comes down to it, the trade deadline should be a slow one for the Canucks, but that's not a bad thing. With recent big wins over Chicago, Buffalo and Pittsburgh the Canucks are spiking at the right time and are starting to look like one of the West's best.

Good things come in small packages and by only making a minor addition or two Vancouver could achieve big things this spring.



Pavol Demitra

Canucks to meet with HNIC staff over Burrows criticism

MEDIA The Vancouver Canucks plan to meet with staff of the CBC's Hockey Night in Canada over its criticism of Alex Burrows, general manager Mike Gillis said yesterday.

Gillis wouldn't say what approach the Canucks will take after host Ron MacLean criticized the Canuck winger after he said NHL referee Stephane Auger was out to get him.

"I apologize but I really don't want to say what the factors are that we're considering," Gillis said as he watched the Canucks practise. "We're going to meet with them and we're going to see what their reaction is and go from there."

The Canucks have solidly backed Burrows and refused CBC interview requests during Saturday night's 5-1 win over the Chicago Blackhawks as a form of protest.

A team spokesman said the meeting is planned for Friday when the Canucks are in Toronto but might have to be conducted by phone.

HNIC staff would be in several remote locations because of the program's Hockey Day In Canada special that features three games involving Canadian teams. The Canucks play the Maple Leafs in the first game of Vancouver's pre-Olympic eight-game, 18-day road trip.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Ottawa 3 New Jersey 0
Florida 2 Montreal 1
Los Angeles 5 Toronto 3
Atlanta 2 Anaheim 1
Columbus 3 Nashville 2
Phoenix 5 Detroit 4 (OT)
Washington 7 N.Y. Islanders 2
Chicago 4 Edmonton 2

TODAY'S GAMES
New Jersey at Buffalo
Carolina at N.Y. Rangers
Anaheim at Washington
Montreal at Tampa Bay
Detroit at Minnesota
Calgary at Dallas
St. Louis at VANCOUVER

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
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Fired FNUC CFO sues school for wrongful dismissal

Former First Nations University of Canada CFO Murray Westerlund has filed a lawsuit against the institution, claiming wrongful dismissal. Westerlund alleged he was marginalized and then fired in December for writing documents detailing violations by FNUC officials. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

U of T's Rotman scores big

The University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management ranks as the foremost Canadian business school in the Financial Times of London's latest top 100 survey of global MBA faculties, placing 45th overall. The other Canadian business schools to make the list are UWO's Ivey (49), York's Schulich (54), UBC's Sauder (82), uAlberta (86), and McGill's Desautels (95). METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Cash, courses and careers

Feeling lost or poor at college or university? Consult these experts

"Career planning is very complex and challenging."
uManitoba's David Ness

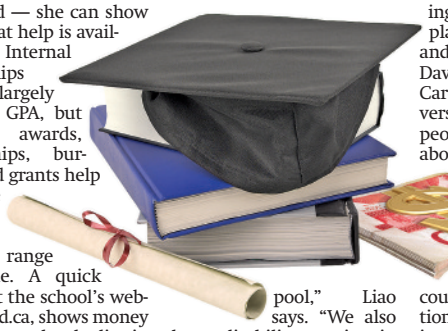
Working at School

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

Financing your post-secondary studies and parlaying them into a career can be daunting, but that's why universities employ experts to help students navigate a successful path.

Polly Liao, financial awards officer at Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver, says she often sees students concerned about footing the educational bill.

"I need to discuss their personal circumstances first, to determine what exactly they're looking for," she says. By getting a clear picture of their finances — what they have and what they need — she can show them what help is available. Internal scholarships are largely based in GPA, but external awards, scholarships, bursaries and grants help a huge and unpredictable range of people. A quick browse at the school's website, Ecuad.ca, shows money targeting people who live in social housing, students who have had tuberculosis, the children of people who work in the pipeline industry, golfers and students of Italian origin.



"We also have a First Nations area and they administer their own scholarship pool," Liao says. "We also have disability service in cases where students have medical conditions."

If students do opt to take out a loan, student services can then help them through the application process.

Once the finances are in place, the next step is picking a career path. "Career planning is very complex and challenging," says David Ness, coordinator of Career Services at the University of Manitoba. "Most people have uncertainty about that at some point. The challenge is, how do I get more certain?"

His staff offer career counselling, career information and employment advising to help students figure out what they like to do and how to do it for a living.

"There's a large number of university students who are unclear about their career paths and what they want to study," he says. "There might be conflict within a family about what path they want to pursue."

Career counselling can help resolve those issues.

The second phase focuses on providing information about hundreds of careers, including a career mentor program. "We hook the students up with someone working in an occupation they're interested in and they get to interview that person," Ness explains.

The information can help students eliminate potential paths and open their eyes to ones they might never have even heard of, let alone considered. Ness says working as prosthetist, the people who design artificial limbs, or as a non-destructive tester making sure buildings are safe against earthquakes, might be the perfect fit for some.

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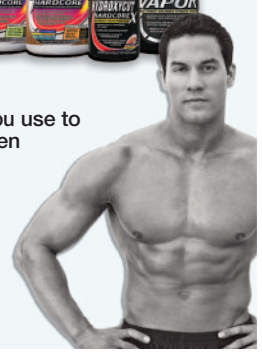

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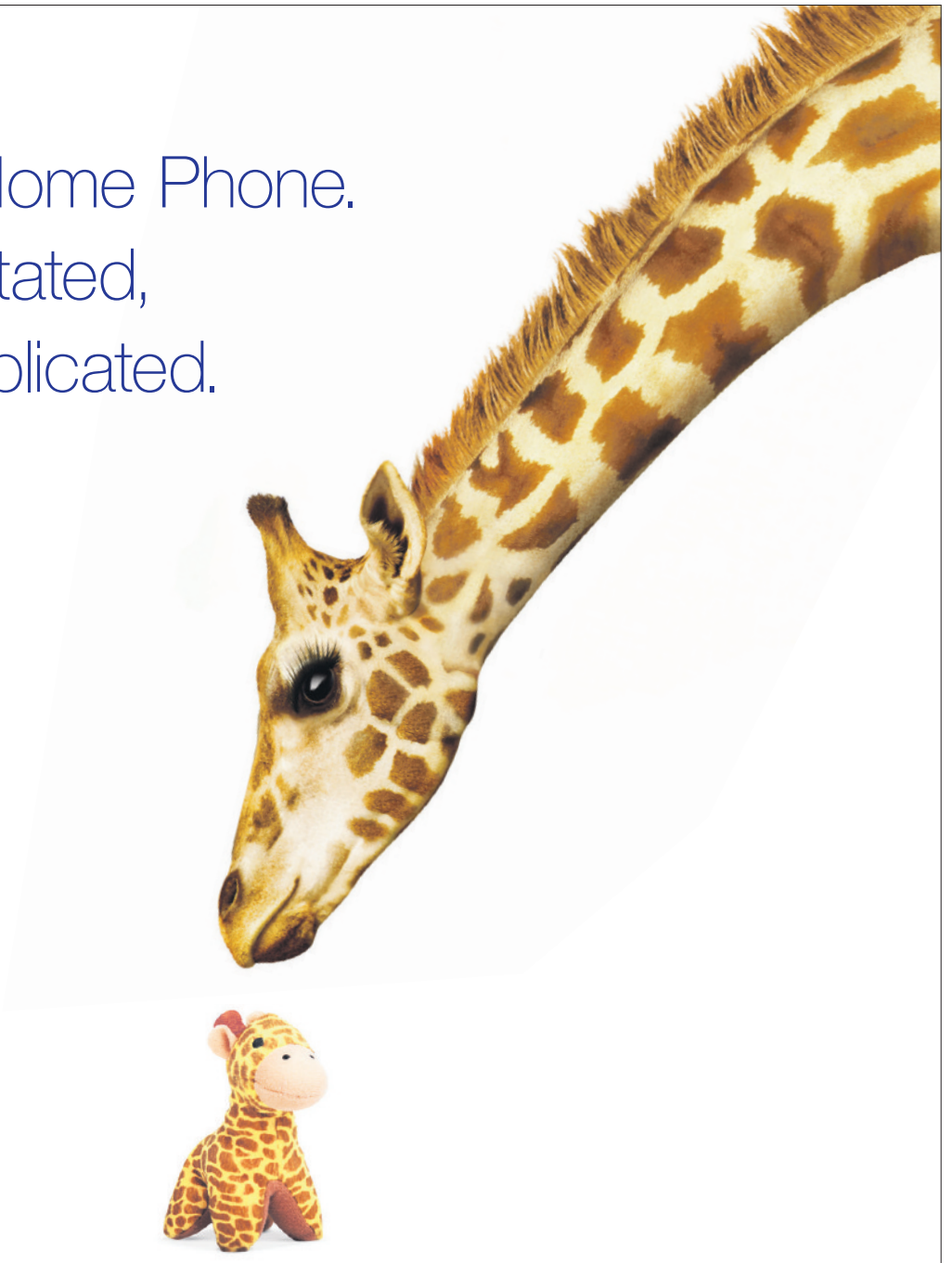

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uWinnipeg receives $4 million donation for downtown construction, scholarships
Winnipeg philanthropic couple John and Bonnie Buhler announced Friday a $4 million gift to the University of Winnipeg, the largest private donation in the institution's history. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Saving lives to saving fruit

Dragons' Den
Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

Have ever considered a career change? It seems like a radical move, especially if you've invested a lot of time, energy and education in a particular career path.

But lots of people do it. Martha Stewart for example, was a stockbroker before she became a caterer (and later a television star). John Grisham was a lawyer before he made it big as an author, writing legal thrillers.

Regular folks switch it up too. My brother Mike worked for a multi-national company selling office equipment — now he's an entrepreneur, running his own successful executive search firm in Calgary. A TV camera-man I know spent years in a completely unrelated field — retail — before switching to television.

And tonight's episode of Dragons' Den features a trio of Vancouver doctors who want to become business moguls. Turns out even well-paid, respected physicians have dreams of doing something else! (These ones have invented the Froot Guard, a plastic case that protects your fruit snack from bruising).

And why not make a change? It seems to me that most people have a vast range of interests and abilities. We usually have to make our choice of career when we're quite young, taking our best guess at what will suit our talents and personalities. Sometimes we don't even choose — we just fall into various jobs and go from there. No wonder people sometimes feel like they're attracted to a completely different livelihood.

But switching careers does require careful consideration. You may need to go back to school. You may need to take a lower salary, starting again at the bottom of the ladder. That's why most people think long and hard before attempting to enter a new field. And most experts advise you do a lot of research before-hand, analyzing your interests, values and skills, so that your new career is a good fit.

Of course some career changes are bigger than others. Remember the Monty Python sketch about the accountant who wants to become a lion-tamer? Sometimes an easier shift is to take your same skills into a new industry — it can feel like a new career.

The Dragons are a little bit dubious about the doctors who pitch for investment tonight. "Do you guys really hate being doctors and you keep trying to get out of that field?" asks Robert. Watch tonight to see if the Dragons help this particular career switch happen.

CBC PHOTO
Froot Guard's David Agulnik, Amin Sajan and Sunil Mangal — three doctors from Vancouver — have new food cases to make sure your fruit arrives alive and will appear on Dragons' Den tonight.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

Hopes high for hiring in IT

EMPLOYMENT While most industries experienced challenges over the last year, IT organizations are optimistic about their future and plan to begin to invest in the growth of their business in 2010.

CareerBuilder's annual hiring forecast reveals that nearly one-third (32 per cent) of IT employers plan to increase the number of full-time, permanent employees; the highest among all industries surveyed.

"The hiring outlook for IT is encouraging for 2010 as companies are hopeful technology will drive innovation and cut costs," said Eric Presley, Chief Technology Officer for CareerBuilder. "Even though the industry has taken some hits in the past year, organizations are confident that technology can help their businesses grow in 2010."

IT employers are looking to the future and making up for lost ground caused by the recession. The following are five trends for 2010:

Replacing Low-Performing Employees: IT employers are taking advantage of the large number of top talent in the current labor pool to strengthen their work force.

More flexibility: Companies plan to continue providing IT employees with greater flexibility in hopes of maintaining a better work-life balance.

Recruitment tools: As demand for qualified workers will increase this year, IT employers will leverage a variety of recruitment tools in 2009 to fill open positions.

Green jobs: IT employers will continue to focus to the environment in 2010.

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Return to tradition in Paris
Paris' 16th arondissement, home to the Arc de Triomphe and Champs-Elysées, embraced the opening of the new Villa & Hotel Majestic on Jan. 12, 2010. This contemporary interpretation of French luxury offers a choice of 52 guestrooms and suites. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Welcome to ABBAworld

The Swedish quartet that gave the world Dancing Queen and has sold 400 million records since its 1970s heyday now has a new museum-theme park in London, England, with enough music, mementoes and memory-lane appeal to satisfy even the most fervent ABBA fan. The exhibition tells the band's story in 25 rooms spread over 2,800 square metres. Visit abbaworld.com for more details. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Take it easy in New Orleans

Learn the ropes before heading to the party in the Big Easy

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

Bourbon Street is a non-stop party with a delta blues soundtrack. But there are lessons you must learn and things you must see in this culturally sensitive community.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Beads are a form of currency in New Orleans.

Try the gumbo if you go to New Orleans.

Bourbon on Bourbon Street.

See: The parades

Parade "Krewes" across the city fight to out-do each other with the biggest, loudest, most flamboyant floats and bands. Grab a beer and chair by the roadside and let Louisiana come to you.

Hear: Bar Blues

The best bar music in the U.S. Every bar along Bourbon street will have authentic, and usually superb, blues or jazz musicians. However, if you hear Sweet Home Alabama run for your life.

Eat: Gumbo

The fabulous Gumbo Creole at Antoine's in Rue Saint Louis. Perfectly prepared blue crabs, oysters, and gulf shrimp, in traditional restaurant which opened in 1840.

Drink: Handgrenade

A terrifying concoction of alcohol usually made to a "secret" house recipe. Without wishing to detract from the mystique it's basically about half a litre of rum served in a container which looks like a battlefield assault weapon.

Wear: Beads

De rigeur. The place is awash with millions of strings of cheap plastic beads which are thrown from the parade floats, and hung around thousands of necks. Strangely, women will bear their breasts for them.

Do: Relax

No-one ever got frowned on in Bourbon Street for ordering that extra shot of bourbon as a John Lee Hooker lookalike bangs out a tight version of Boogie Chillen.

Don't: Disaster sightsee

Although the city is back to normal, many of the outlying wards are still rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Locals are not keen on being a tourist attraction.

Say: Ma'am' and Sir

Courtesy is a big deal here. Neglecting this rule is apt to be interpreted as arrogance or insolence or just plain bad upbringing.

Don't say: 'The Big Easy'

In the same way no one in NYC calls the city "The Big Apple" no-one, but no-one, in New Orleans calls it the Big Easy.

Know the price of snow gear for flights

SKI Cheapflights.ca has compiled a list of close to 20 airlines and the costs of travelling with ski equipment along with 'Need to Know' information to avoid any surprises at check-in.

Two examples from the list include:

WestJet counts skis and snowboards as part of the free baggage allowance —two pieces of checked baggage, up to 23kg each.

They allow one set per passenger. If oversized, the fee will be waived, but overweight or extra piece fees will be charged. American Airlines charges $25 for first checked piece, $35 for second, $100 per piece for third, fourth and fifth, $200 for sixth checked bag.

Ski and snowboard boot bag and one pair of skis or snowboard are charged the checked bag charge for the first or second checked bag item — $25 or $35.

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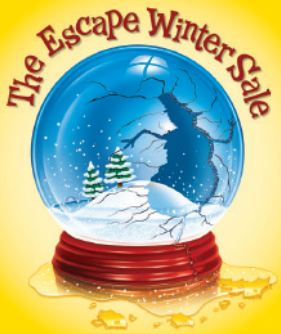

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Little change in used car demo: J.D. Power

The demographics of Canadian used-vehicle buyers changed very little in 2009, compared with 2008, according to a report by J.D. Power and Associates. In 2009, the age of the typical buyer increased to 45 years old, from the 2008 average of 44 years old. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Down to the wire

The finalists for the Canadian Car of the Year have been named, with the winner to be announced at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto on Feb. 11. The nominees are: BMW 335d Sedan, Volkswagen Golf GTI, left, and Volkswagen Golf Wagon TDI. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Mazda2 on its way

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

Mazda wants, literally, to put a little Zoom Zoom in your life.

This summer, it will introduce the subcompact Mazda2 in Canada and the U.S. Originally shown at the 2007 Frankfurt Motor Show, it is also sold as the Demio in Japan.

Mazda Canada has wanted this car since it was announced and, finally, they will have a contender in the growing Canadian subcompact segment to go up against the likes of Toyota Yaris, Honda Fit and the Ford Fiesta that shares much of the Mazda2's underpinnings.

In Europe it is offered with a choice of a gasoline 1.3-litre or 1.5-litre engine and a 1.4-litre diesel. Tested here is the 1.5-litre which is an inline, four-cylinder unit with twin cams, variable valve timing and fuel injection for 102 hp and 101 lb-ft of torque driving the front wheels with a standard five-speed manual or optional four-speed automatic transmission. I drove the 1.5-litre with the automatic.

2010 Mazda2

Type: Subcompact (Euro version)
Price: Not available
Engine: 1.5L
HP: 102
Torque: 101 lb-ft

Highlights

- Cool, stylish look
- Quiet ride
- Available in Canada this summer

The car tested here is a Russian specification model and is roughly similar to what is coming this summer.

With the manual (I don't have numbers for the automatic as tested), European fuel economy is rated at 7.6/4.9/5.9L/100 km city/highway/combined. Top speed is listed at 188 km/h and the 0-100 km/h time is a surprising 10.4 seconds.

When I asked what engine will we see in Canada, I was given a firm "no comment."

Interestingly, 95 per cent of the Mazda2 is recyclable and it contains no lead, chromium, mercury or cadmium.

Mazda will bring the Mazda2 subcompact, here tested in its European version, to Canada this summer.

Another thing going for the Mazda2 is its styling. It is anything but with a pugnacious stance that is more pronounced by two character lines, one along the rocker panel and one at the belt line. The latter rises as it climbs towards the rear fender that houses the rear wheel at the absolute outside edge.

First impression was how vibrant it looked in a Ferrari red, a world away from my Protégé in sand beige. The second was how big the side windows appeared. I found out later that was part of the overall styling concept.

The interior is standard fare for a Japanese small car, charcoal throughout. Instrumentation is simple and the car tested here came with power windows and mirrors.

One thing of interest was how much quieter it is than my current Mazda5. Apparently, Mazda engineers used double door seals and stiffer door panels, that are less affected by aerodynamic suction at higher speeds.

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Photo courtesy of Adam and Kev Photography.
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Korean Kia revives U.S. town

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

The signs you see around a small town can tell you a lot about that town.

"Beef for Dinner is Always a Winner." That's on a sign just outside Paisley, Ont.. With that in mind, it wouldn't surprise anybody that they raise a lot of beef cattle around Paisley, and that the town's big annual shindig is something called "Beef Fest."

Now consider: "Thank You Jesus For Bringing Kia To Our Town."

That's on a sign in the town in West Point, Ga. From that you could correctly surmise that Kia has got something big going on in town, that the town folk are grateful for it, and that they tend to hold Jesus in high regard.

What Kia has got going on is a big and beautiful vehicle manufacturing facility worth about $1 billion (all figures in US dollars).

I was fortunate to be among a group of Canadian journalists that Kia recently invited to West Point, to tour the plant, and sample its first fruit — the 2011 Kia Sorento.

The plant has been running since late November, and is now cranking out about 500 vehicles a day on one shift, with about 1,200 employees. Kia received over 43,000 job applications for those initial plant positions. It is now hiring a second shift.

The 2011 Kia Sorento is being manufactured at the company's new plant in West Point, Ga.

If and when the plant reaches full capacity, it will employ about 2,500 and have the capacity to produce 300,000 vehicles annually. Kia suppliers on site could eventually add another 7,500 jobs.

But those jobs won't come, and didn't come, without some cost. West Point Mayor Drew Ferguson told us the municipality invested about $300 million — for such items as tax breaks and incentives, a $90 million water treatment plant, and a $32 million road.

Ferguson told us that the project created lots of mixed emotions, especially among the 32 families whose farms were needed for the 2,220-acre site "There was lots of praying, lots of crying."

I wonder who, 20 years ago, would have thought that the impetus for the area's reversal of fortunes would have been the arrival of a Korean automaker?

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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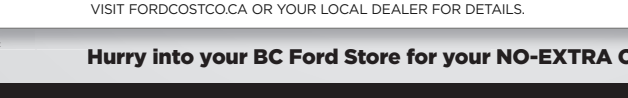

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Zellweger joins film fest jury

The Berlin Film Festival says Oscar-winning actress Renee Zellweger has joined the jury for this year's competition. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Grammy Awards get young

The past two Grammy Awards ceremonies have ended on similar notes.

In 2008, jazz legend Herbie Hancock — then 68 — climbed the stage to collect his 12th career Grammy, besting more buzzed-about competitors Amy Winehouse and Kanye West in the album of the year category.

Last year, it was Alison Krauss and Robert Plant who brought their collective career Grammy count up to 33, beating out such MTV-friendly competition as Lil Wayne (who had the year's bestselling album), Coldplay and Ne-Yo (along with Radiohead) for album of the year, and amassing a show-high five trophies.

Going into Sunday's show, Beyoncé leads with 10 nominations, followed by eight for 20-year-old crossover country sensation Taylor Swift.

But some expert observers feel that if the Grammys want to skew to a younger audience, they'll need to do more than just dole out nominations to poppy, teen-friendly acts — those performers will need to take home some trophies, too.

"I think it's time that the Grammys started appealing to a broader demographic and I think they're finally realizing that things need to change," MuchMusic VJ Devon Soltendieck said in a telephone interview.

"Sixteen-year-old kids don't want to watch Robert Plant win a Grammy. They don't. Unless he's with Led Zeppelin, they just don't."

"To somebody who's 16, Eric Clapton feels geriatric. The Grammys' nominating committee is probably realizing they need to be more diverse, and they really need to appeal to a broader number of people."

Catch the Grammy Awards this Sunday

Indeed, while the 64-year-old Clapton did receive two nominations this year, many of the marquee awards at the 52nd Grammys seem to be stacked in favour of a younger generation of artists.

Beyoncé, Swift and upstart electro-pop oddball Lady Gaga will duel in each of the show's three biggest categories (album, record and song of the year). At 28 years old, Beyoncé is the senior of the three.

The Black Eyed Peas received six nominations (including nods for record of the year), along with Maxwell and Kanye West, and French house producer David Guetta, Jay-Z and Gaga each took five nods.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

Beyoncé Knowles leads this year's Grammy Award nominations with 10.

1/27/10 primetime

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
251	308	3 CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (N) (CC)		Republic of Doyle (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
254	-	8 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		The Simpsons
250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	American Idol (N) (CC)		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		CTV News
-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	The Practice (CC)		Third Watch (CC)		P3	Ek Noor	New Day
252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "Words and Deeds"		Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		The Deep End (N) (CC)		News
256	389	12 VI	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N) (CC)	Old Christine	The Middle	Never Been Kissed ★★ (1999) Drew Barrymore. (CC)				A News (N)
253	359	13 CITY	Ugly Betty (CC)		Mercy (CC)		Family	Cougar Town	Family	Cougar Town	EP Daily
-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Gossip Girl (CC)		Life Unexpected (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
289	381	15 CBS	State/Union	The Insider	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Two/Half Men	TBA	To Be Announced		KIRO 7 News
287	379	16 NBC	(6:00) State of the Union (Live)		Mercy (CC)		KING 5 News	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Paid Program	KING 5 News
602	568	19 W	Supernanny (CC)		Dine With Me	Grocery Bag	Restaur.	Restaur.	Chef Worthy	Fearl-Kitchen	Grocery Bag
288	380	21 ABC	State/Union	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune	The Middle	Everyday Heroes-Children's		Family	Cougar Town	KOMO 4 News
-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow ★★★ (2004)				Seinfeld	King	Cheers (CC)
291	383	27 PBS	(6:00) State of the Union (Live)		Tavis Smiley Reports (CC)		The National Parks: America's Best Idea (CC) (DVS)				MI-5 "Syria"
290	382	28 FOX	State/Union	Two/Half Men	American Idol (N) (CC)		To Be Announced		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
-	364	45 PBS	(6:00) State of the Union (Live)		Being Served	Keeping Up	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Tavis Smiley Reports (CC)	
296	654	54 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Street Court	Cold Files
298	653	55 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (CC)		Life Unexpected (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
295	651	56 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According/Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
297	652	57 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According/Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld

news

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
502	390	23 NW	Comic Books Go To War (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Comic Books Go To War		National
500	500	33 CNN	(6:00) State of the Union (Live)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Larry King Live (Live) (CC)		State of the Union "2010" (Live) (CC)		

sports

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
407	419	22 RSP	NHL Hockey St. Louis Blues at Vancouver Canucks. (Subject to Blackout)					Sportsnet	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		WHL Hockey
400	400	30 TSN	(6:30) Tennis Australian Open, Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live)								SportsCentre
411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth (CC)		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Ghost Hunters
410	403	54 SCR	College Basketball		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
417	406	55 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Dangerous Drives		Pass Time	Pass Time	Wrecked
416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol Español				Gol TV News	Foot Brazil	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News

family

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
552	543	25 YTV	iCarly (CC)	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
555	545	50 TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
553	546	53 TRE	Babar (CC)	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	(:35) Franklin	Comfy Couch

cable variety

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
268	354	5 KNO	Blue Realm "Miracle Venom"		Chinese School (CC)		In Search of Mozart (CC)		In Search of Mozart (CC)		Royal Journey
575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Due South "Juliet Is Bleeding"		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba "Issues"	Reba (CC)	According/Jim
570	580	24 MM	My Date	disBAND	MuchOnDemand (CC)		Pimp My Ride	My Own	Love Court	My Date	Spotlight
600	564	25 H&G	House	House Hunt.	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Agent-Agent	Intervention	Property	Unsellable	House Hunt
615	520	31 A&E	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Bounty Hunter	(:31) Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Steven Seagal
628	584	32 SPKE	Ways to Die	MANswers (N)	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers	Ways to Die	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Mysteries
521	560	34 TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras (N) (CC)		Strange Sex (CC)		I'm Pregnant	I'm Pregnant	Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Mystery Diag.
616	522	35 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		You Belong to Me (2008, Suspense) Shannon Elizabeth. (CC)				HawthoRNe "Yielding" (N)		NCIS "Iced"
620	523	40 BVO	White Collar "Hard Sell"		Law & Order "Purple Heart"		Without a Trace (CC)		White Collar "Hard Sell"		Red Shoe
601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	What	Real Housewives-Atlanta		Real Housewives OC		Runway
520	505	42 DIS	Mayday "Out of Control"		Daily Planet (CC)		Mayday "Out of Control"		The Colony		License
522	506	44 HIS	Ice Pilots NWT "Thin Ice" (N)		Nostradamus Effect (N) (CC)		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		Ice Pilots NWT "Thin Ice"		Re-Inventors
627	528	45 SPC	Supernatural (N) (CC)		InnerSpace	Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Lost "The Variable" (CC)	
294	650	47 TBS	Meet, Browns	Meet, Browns	Lopez Tonight (N)		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
619	525	48 TROP	Rescue Ink "House of Horror"		Hoarders "Jake; Shirley"		Hoarders "Augustine" (CC)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled
603	561	52 FN	Chopped "A Nori Story"		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Chopped "A Nori Story"		Iron Chef Am.
-	-	55 AMC	League	Force 10 From Navarone ★★ (1978, War) Robert Shaw, Harrison Ford, Barbara Bach. (CC)						Star Trek: Nemesis ★★ (CC)	
626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Little Britain	Hot Box	Daily Show
320	621	60 CEN	(6:25) The Building (2009)		My Best Friend's Girl ★ (2008) Dane Cook.				(:45) Untraceable ★★ (2008) Diane Lane, Billy Burke. (CC)		
581	566	101 MTV	The Real World "D.C." (N)		MTV Live	After	Buried	Life of Ryan	The Real World "D.C." (CC)		MTV Live
261	394	102 V	Unscripted (N)	God Bless	Poltergeist: The Legacy		The Fantasticks ★★ (1995) Joel Grey, Brad Sullivan. (CC)				Interwood
-	-	103 MUL	Sewing Maid	Immortal	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Temas	Patrol World

Dance Card
Paula Abdul has a million reasons to appear on Dancing with the Stars. ABC has offered Abdul a $1 million US development deal, with one catch — she has to appear on DWTS. TMZ.COM

Sparks shines bright

Bestselling author has Hollywood knocking on his door

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

With 15 bestselling novels and six film adaptations under his belt, Nicholas Sparks is one of the most successful writers working today — and he does in fact sit down to work every single day. The man behind The Notebook, A Walk to Remember and the upcoming Dear John sat down with Metro to chat about film adaptations, the state of the publishing industry and making people cry.

Nicholas Sparks is the author behind Dear John, which opens in theatres next Friday.

Q When you write a book now, is a film adaption in your mind?

A No, I'm a novelist. Movies come, movies go, and the day I figure out Hollywood, I think I'll be the first in town. It's a complicated thing, and that's a world that I can't control. The only world that I can control is the world of writing a novel, because if I write it, it will get published.

Q But there isn't a part of you thinking, 'how will this be adapted?'

A No, it isn't. The only way I think about film in the process of writing is to be aware of films with the knowledge that I'm trying to write an original story. I don't want to write a book that's been written before, even by myself. At the same time, I don't want to write a novel that feels like you just saw it in a movie. For instance, I would never write a love story set on the Titanic. It was never a book. It would be original in literature, but it's not original.

Dear John opens in theatres next Friday

Q What's your interaction level with your readers?

A It's minimal. For the most part I'm not recognized. I could walk down through the lobby right after this interview and nobody's going to know who I am. I get tons of fan mail, and everybody gets an answer. Well, almost everybody. I don't do Twitter, but I do have a very extensive website. And I think I have a Facebook page that my publisher runs. I don't even know how to get onto Facebook.

Q Certainly your name is recognized.

A It would be wonderful to think that the world is full of readers, but it's not. More people would recognize The Notebook than Nicholas Sparks. It's on cable every month, and it's been seen by 400 million people, whereas 20 per cent of the U.S. population reads novels.

Q And finally, why do you like to make people cry?

A I don't think that's quite a fair question, because that is certainly not the reason I write what I write. I write in the genre of the Greek tragedies. You cover the full spectrum of human emotions. So sadness is certainly part of that. It just happens that most people remember the sadness. That's not my fault, though.

Timberlake named Hasty Pudding Man of the Year

Timberlake

PEOPLE Justin Timberlake will soon have a new piece of hardware for his trophy case — a pudding pot.

The Grammy and Emmy award winner was named Harvard's Hasty Pudding Man of the Year yesterday.

Timberlake will receive the award at a roast set for Feb. 5. Hasty Pudding Theatricals said in a statement that the singer, songwriter, actor and producer was selected because he's "one of pop culture's most influential entertainers."

His album, Justified, produced four No. 1 singles, making him the first artist in Top 40 history with four No. 1 hits from one album.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tim Burton set to lead Cannes film jury in May

MOVIES American filmmaker Tim Burton will head the jury at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival.

The Edward Scissorhands and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory director says heading up the nine-member jury in May is a "great honour."

Organizers of the French Riviera festival made the announcement yesterday in a statement quoting Burton's reaction.

Burton says: "After spending my early life watching triple features and 48-hour horror movie marathons, I'm finally ready for this."

The 63rd Cannes festival will be held May 12 to 23.

The rest of the jury will be announced later.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Half-pint Tequila?
Tila Tequila says she's pregnant and she's willing to confirm it — for a price, TMZ.com reports. The website says Tequila is shopping around an ultrasound image she says proves she's having a baby. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

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The Dicaprio slasher

SHE KNOWS SCARS ARE SEXY A woman accused of hitting Leonardo Dicaprio in the face with a glass during a Hollywood party in 2005 will be extradited from Canada to the U.S. to face charges, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Former model Aretha Wilson allegedly attended a party at the Hollywood Hills home of Paris Hilton's ex Rick Salomon when she allegedly slashed the actor's face. According to police reports, the Titanic star needed 17 stitches to his face and ear.

Wilson, 39, was arrested in Los Angeles and charged with assault with a deadly weapon but fled the country before sentencing.

According to TMZ.com, Wilson was taken into custody in Ontario last week and has agreed to be extradited back to the U.S.

Dicaprio is expected to testify in the case.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Momma Pitt to the rescue

WHAT? A TATTOOED GIRL WITH A VILE OF BLOOD AROUND HER NECK IS NOT YOUR IDEAL DAUGHTER-IN-LAW? While their reps continue denying reports that Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are breaking up, at least one person is taking an active role in keeping them together. Brad's mom, Jane Pitt, is reportedly planning a sit-down with Jolie to work things out, according to the Daily Mail.

"Jane wants what is best for her son and grandchildren, and Angie has agreed to meet her," a source says. While she's never been the biggest Jolie fan, Jane is doing it for her son, the source says. "Brad is trying to cling onto the wreckage of the relationship as he is still very much in love with Angelina and believes they can make it work."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Affleck-ed by her words

JEN AND HER PRETTY BIG MOUTH Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner are one of Hollywood's most private couples, so when the Alias alum let loose some intimate details of their relationship in a recent interview, the actor was none too pleased, popeater.com reports.

In a Parade magazine cover story, Garner revealed that her husband wooed her with "very persuasive" e-mails and that he was a "sexy and kind" partner.

"I do write e-mails to my wife, that is true," Affleck told Access Hollywood over the weekend. "Sounds like the kind of thing that my wife was looking for something to say in the interview ... and that's what she came up with," he said.

"So, thanks for that, because now here I am, doing another interview and then they ask me about that. So, thank you, honey."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

ROB THOMAS keeps himself in check, **KEVIN SMITH** gets nostalgic, **SARAH SILVERMAN** can't find any deals, and **KIRSTIE ALLEY** puts her diet in perspective.

@ThisIsRobThomas everyday i wake up and say "i'm not going to work out today" then i taunt myself until i make it down to the gym.

@ThatKevinSmith 13 years ago today, CHASING AMY had its world premiere @ Sundance97. Been trying to make as good a flick ever since.

@SarahKSilverman Big sales are really only great if you're a size zero or 14.

@kirstiealley GOING TO DINNER....TINY LITTLE BIT THAT IT IS...lol...enough to wittle me down. and huge compared to our HAITI friends..will return soon shower after it is wet!

METRO WORLD NEWS

Jen gives big

OH, LOOK! THERE'S A BAND WAGON! Celebrities are continuing their support for charities to help in the aftermath of the devastating Haiti earthquake, with Jennifer Aniston leading the charge. Aside from taking part in George Clooney's telethon last week, the Friends star has reportedly donated $500,000 of her own money to Doctors Without Borders, Partners in Health and AmeriCares, according to E! News.

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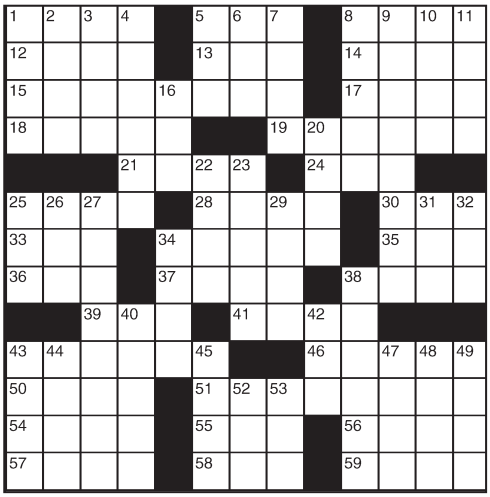
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Trade
5 In bygone days
8 Foil cousin
12 Tittle
13 Archer's need
14 Picture of health?
15 Offer
17 Sit for the photog
18 Calyx component
19 Skiers' mecca
21 Lead-in to pit or pool
24 Bonfire residue
25 Get a glimpse of
28 "Hey, sailor!"
30 "Cabaret" lyricist
33 Kids' card game
34 Credit or respect, slangily
35 U.S. spy org.
36 Id counterpart
37 Sushi bar supply
38 Legendary tale
39 Shell game need
41 Elbow counterpart
43 Oniony rolls
46 Hide
50 Part of A.D.
51 Trait
54 Dance part
55 Debtor's letters
56 Peruse
57 Firetruck need
58 Trawler gear
59 Wise one

DOWN

1 Tries the tea
2 Sported
3 On
4 Benedict's office
5 Tummy muscles
6 State of India
7 Barn birds
8 Former Montreal team
9 Prediction
10 Relaxation
11 Spuds' buds
16 Bullring bravo
20 Potato chip brand
22 Rani's wrap
23 Big jolt
25 Lamb's dam
26 Succumb to gravity
27 Barbecue fuels, often
29 Admitting clients
31 Morsel
32 "Humbug!"
34 Beseech
38 Parking lot array
40 Run off to marry
42 Kreskin's claim
43 Hit hard
44 Grooving on
45 Whirl
47 Neighborhood
48 Unescorted
49 Stevenson villain
52 Shad product
53 Chic no more

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			6	5				9
9		4		1		7		
					9			3
	6	7	4	9		8		
		2				9		
		9		3	2	1	4	
6			3					
		8		2		3		4
4				7	5			

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

P	L	O	W		A	S	H	
A	I	D	E		M	O	A	
W	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	
			D	U	N		B	L
U	N	P	E	G		R	E	A
T	O	A	D		S	E	E	D
A	N	T		S	T	U	N	S
H	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	
			R	I	P	E		K
C	H	E	A	P	O		L	I
L	O	A	F		N	E	E	D
O	U	S	T		I	W	O	
P	R	E	Y		T	E	N	

3	7	2	1	6	8	5	9	4
1	4	6	5	9	2	8	3	7
8	9	5	4	3	7	6	1	2
7	5	3	9	8	4	2	6	1
4	6	1	7	2	5	3	8	9
9	2	8	3	1	6	7	4	5
2	8	9	6	5	1	4	7	3
6	3	7	2	4	9	1	5	8
5	1	4	8	7	3	9	2	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

"... AND IN REGARDS TO MY HUSBAND GEORGE, WHO HAS NEVER LIFTED A BROOM IN HIS LIFE — I'D LIKE MY ASHES SCATTERED OVER THE LIVING ROOM FLOOR..."

Metro Recipe of the Day

Pappardelle with Chicken and Cherry Tomatoes

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
1 red onion, halved and thinly sliced
2 garlic cloves, crushed
4 skinless chicken breast fillets, cut into 3/4 -in. (2-cm) cubes
14 oz (400 g) cherry tomatoes, halved
14 oz (400 g) pappardelle
5 oz (150 g) arugula

METHOD:

1. Heat olive oil in frying pan with lid. Add onion and garlic; cook gently 2 minutes. Add chicken and stir-fry over medium heat until lightly coloured. Reduce heat slightly and stir in tomatoes. Cover pan and cook, stirring occasionally, 8-10 minutes or until tomatoes are soft and chicken is cooked through.

2. While sauce is simmering, cook pasta in pot of salted boiling water according to pack instructions. Drain.

3. Stir arugula into sauce and season to taste. Tip pasta into warmed serving bowl. Spoon over sauce and toss gently to combine thoroughly. Serve.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Moderation is essential today. If you go to extremes or make promises you may not be able to deliver on you are asking for trouble.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Someone in a position of authority will smile on you today and it could be the start of a partnership that you come to rely on.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You have a tendency to worry about small and unimportant issues and that is something you need to watch out for over the next 24 hours.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
With Venus, planet of romance, opposing Mars today you could be lucky in love, but only if you are prepared to overlook someone's flaws.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You may find it hard to keep your emotions under wraps today, but that's not a bad thing. Don't be afraid to open your heart.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Whether or not you enjoy certain tasks depends on your attitude: if you think they are going to be boring they will be boring.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Venus, your ruler, and Mars oppose each other across the most creative axis of your chart today, which means you'll have a lot of fun.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Be careful you don't come on too strong today, especially at work where you could clash with someone in a position of authority.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You seem to be in a positive frame of mind at the moment and that's good because there could be a few minor setbacks today.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Try not to get involved in a war of words today or people will think you have something to hide — and that could be a problem.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
If you can get through the day without throwing a tantrum or throwing in the towel your love life will not only survive but prosper.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Resist changing methods and routines that work well. The danger is that if you change one thing you will have to change just about everything

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